Message Text

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21/13

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 MC-02 SR-02 ORM-03 EUR-25

AID-20 /184 W

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R 182235Z OCT 73 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7452 INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O.11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, PE, CI

SUBJECT: PERU-CHILE: ARMS PURCHASES AND REFUGEES

- 1. YESTERDAY, DURING PRESS CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT VELASCO TOUCHED ON PERUVIAN AND CHILEAN ARMS PURCHASES AS WELL AS REFUGEE QUESTION.
- 2. RESPONDING TO QUESTION ABOUT REPORTED CHILEAN PURCHASE OF \$50 MILLION IN FRENCH ARMS, VELASO SAID THAT PERU WOULD RATHER SPEND ITS MONEY ON DEVELOPMENT BUT THAT CHILEAN ATTITUDE WOULD OBLIGE PERU TO BUY AN UNSPECIFED AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL ARMS.
- 3. WHEN ASKED WHETHER PERU WOULD SERVE AS HAVEN FOR THIRD COUNTRY POLITICAL REFUGEES CURRENTLY IN CHILE, VELASCO REFFERED QUESTION TO FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR. HE SAID THAT TALKS HAD TAKEN PLACE WITH ICEM (INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION ON EUROPEAN MIGRATION), WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES OVER USE OF PERU AS TRANSIT POINT FOR EVACUATION OF FOREIGN REFUGEES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM CHILE TO OTHER PARTS OF WORLD. DE LA FLOR

SAID THAT PERU WAS FACILITATING SUCH AVACUATION.

3. COMMENT: DE LA FLOR BEGGED QUESTION OF PERU SERVING AS HAVEN FOR FOREIGN POLITICAL REFUGEES LEAVING CHILE, ACCORDING TO NEWSMAN WHO ASKED REFUGEE QUESTION, ARGENTINE PRESS REPORTED REMARK BY ICEM OFFICIAL THAT PERU WAS READY TO WELCOME ALL POLITICAL REFUGEES FROM CHILE. NEWSMAN SAYS THAT ICEM COMMENT ANGERED PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY WHICH ONLY WILLING GRANT TRANSIT FACILITIES TO CHILEAN REFUGEES. BELCHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ARMS, MILITARY PROCUREMENT, REFUGEES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 18 OCT 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 19731 IMA07655

Document Number: 1973LIMA07655 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: LIMA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731025/aaaaarvd.tel Line Count: 72

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION ARA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: golinofr Review Content Flags: Review Date: 24 JAN 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PERU-CHILE: ARMS PURCHASES AND REFUGEES

TAGS: PFOR, PE, CI

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005